



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2015, 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Chairman - Sean Kelly, Vice Chairman - Chris Todd, Gilbert Gamboa, David Hurley, Stanislav Moline and Alternate Stefanie Cunningham (arrived at 7:05pm)

ABSENT: Alternate Donna Resutek

STAFF

PRESENT: Lisa M. Houlihan, Town Planner

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:03p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

BY CONSENSUS, THE COMMISSION RECESSED AT 7:06 PM; RECONVENED AT 7:08 PM.

Lisa Houlihan, Town Planner stated that the Planning & Zoning Commission (PZC) has reviewed the draft Route 83 Corridor Study in its entirety.. The PZC is waiting on the Design Review Board (DRB) to review the design aspects of the study and recommend changes. The DRB has met and established a schedule to meet on a monthly basis starting February. The PZC thinks the draft report is ready for a public information meeting and has scheduled a meeting for January 29, 2015, in the Town Hall Meeting Room at 7:00pm. She noted that the press releases have gone out and encouraged all to attend.

BY CONSENSUS, THE COMMISSION WENT OUT OF AGENDA ORDER TO REVIEW ALL OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE ITEM III. OLD BUSINESS: Discussion Regarding Route 83 Corridor Study - Draft Report (8/18/14)

IV. ACTIVE BUSINESS:

1. Discussion Regarding Future Business Event

BY CONSENSUS, THIS ITEM WAS TABLED TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING.

2. Report: Tolland County Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Houlihan stated that she attended the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee meeting and during that meeting the April 7th

Business Event was discussed. Ms. Houlihan explained what the event entails and what the commission may want to advertise if they obtain a table at the April event.

The commission discussed if they wanted to purchase a table for \$200 and agreed to highlight the same information they did at the last event.

Commissioner Hurley inquired as to who the audience would be at the event.

The commission asked Ms. Houlihan to contact the Chamber and inquire if the commission could invite a few local businesses to share in the cost of a table and what kind of attendance there has been in the past.

Ms. Houlihan also updated the commission on other upcoming events the Chamber will be holding.

NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS

3. Report: Agricultural Initiatives

Ms. Houlihan stated that the Bahler Farms farmland preservation program is still in progress and has a tentative closing date for May 2015.

NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS

4. Report: Business Directory/Business Surveys and Site Visits

Ms. Houlihan asked the commission to refer to the updated portal activity report provided for them and noted that there has not been much activity. The commission reviewed it and questioned the page view count because it seemed high and wanted to know how the actual count worked.

Commissioner Hurley stated that the most important aspect is how many businesses have signed up for the program and what the plan would be to promote GoLocal even more.

The commission discussed ways to advertise again and suggested placing a quick response (QR) code within the Ellington Connection and possibly even focusing on reaching out to the businesses by naming those that have already signed up. Chairman Kelly stated he would write something up and review that with Ms. Houlihan.

NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS

5. Report: Tax Incentive Programs

Nothing to report.

NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS

6. Report: Current Economic Activity

Ms. Houlihan stated that The Barn Yard has applied for permits to begin construction and the new owner of the old Thunderbird liquor store is seeking a certificate of occupancy to open.

NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS

V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. Approval of the November 12, 2014 meeting minutes.

MOVED (HURLEY), SECONDED (GAMBOA) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 12, 2014 MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

2. Election of officers.

MOVED (TODD), SECONDED (GAMBOA) TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER KELLY FOR CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC) FOR 2015. COMMISSIONER KELLY ACCEPTED THE NOMINATION.

HEARING NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS, NOMINATIONS WERE CLOSED.

MOVED (TODD), SECONDED (GAMBOA) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT COMMISSIONER KELLY FOR CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC) FOR 2015.

MOVED (GAMBOA), SECONDED (KELLY) TO NOMINATE CHRISTOPHER TODD AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC) FOR 2015. COMMISSIONER TODD ACCEPTED THE NOMINATION.

HEARING NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS, NOMINATIONS WERE CLOSED.

MOVED (GAMBOA), SECONDED (KELLY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT COMMISSIONER TODD FOR VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC) FOR 2015.

3. Correspondence:

- a. Letter to Lisa Houlihan, Town Planner from Candice Corcione, Executive Director/Tolland County Chamber of Commerce dated, 12/18/14. (20th Annual Business Showcase)
- b. Email to Lisa Houlihan, Town Planner dated, 12/10/14 from U.S. Commercial Service. (New Voucher Program)

SO NOTED

Ms. Houlihan informed the commission of the Connecticut Bar Association Seminar, Saturday, March 21, 2015 - 8:30am - 4:30pm. If any commissioner would like to attend, please contact the Planning Department.

BY CONSENSUS, THE COMMISSION RETURNED TO THE ORIGINAL ORDER OF AGENDA .

III. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discussion Regarding Route 83 Corridor Study - Draft Report (8/18/14)

Ms. Houlihan stated the Route 83 Corridor Study kicked off when the Town of Ellington purchased an additional 300,000 gallons per day of sewer capacity from the Town of Vernon. The Planning & Zoning Commission (PZC) wanted to coordinate the allocation of that infrastructure and apply it to how they would like to see the Route 83 corridor developed. Ms. Houlihan reviewed the major recommendations within the study and noted the Multi Family component. Ms. Houlihan referred to the change to the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) recommending that additional sewer capacity be preserved for commercial and industrial development. Ms. Houlihan noted that once the study is finished, it needs to be incorporated within the POCD and current town regulations. Again, Ms. Houlihan stated the public information meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2015, in the Town Hall meeting room at 7:00pm.

Ms. Houlihan encouraged the commission to review the study and submit any questions/concerns at the commission's February meeting.

NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS

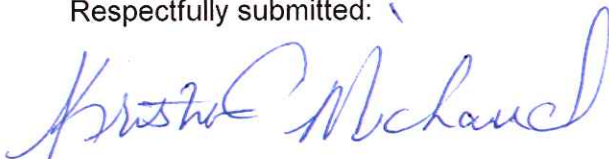
Alternate Cunningham departed at 8:15pm.

Commissioner Moline departed at 8:40pm.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

**MOVED (HURLEY), SECONDED (GAMBOA) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO
ADJOURN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING AT 8:45 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted: \



Kristin Michaud
Recording Clerk